

Patrick McCarthy

This year's Gala video will feature Special Olympics Illinois athlete Patrick McCarthy. Patrick, 28, has participated in the program since he was eight years old. He began his Special Olympics career competing in track & field and then moved on to try many other sports, including: soccer, speed skating, golf, equestrian, softball, basketball, bowling, volleyball, tennis, powerlifting, and swimming. In 2013, Patrick was selected to join Special Olympics USA as a participant in the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Pyeongchang, Korea.

Aside from the many Special Olympics sports Patrick participates in, he has a love for hockey. Patrick began playing hockey with the Chicago Blackhawks Special Hockey in August of 2000.

In December 2010, Patrick moved to Misericordia, where he lives in a more independent CILA in the community, which is operated by Misericordia.

Living and working at Misericordia has afforded him many opportunities vocationally, recreationally, and socially, and has exposed him to situations which encourage the development of independence.

Patrick works several jobs on the Misericordia campus, including recycling and bakery packaging. He also works part-time at Panera Bread in Evanston.

Patrick has been an ambassador for the Chicago White Sox since 2013. He likes to spend time painting, reading and listening to music. He enjoys running and generally runs in a half dozen or so 5-10k races in Chicago every year. Despite the challenges Patrick has overcome, he is always ready to take on something new!

